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Mary Graybiel.

[From Missionary Tidings, July, 1895.]

As the fullness of Timothy's faith dwelt in his mother, Eunice, so the faith of Miss Mary dwelt first in her mother, Lydia Graybiel. From her she learned the Holy Scriptures and inherited a heroic nature. Many of you have seen this venerable mother in Israel and heard her precious words of exhortation. She who furnishes a well-equipped missionary for the world's salvation has made a contribution beyond human estimation. May the Lord bless her memory and cause us to live more Christ-like.

Miss Mary's early life was spent in Williams-ville, N. Y., near Buffalo, where she received a liberal education in the Academy established there by our Brethren in 1856, first presided over by Bro. Thomas Munnell and later by Bro. Joseph King. She obeyed the Gospel of Christ at about the age of twelve years, and her religion was a deep and forcible characteristic of her life. She spent several years in teaching in western New York and Pennsylvania and everywhere her Christian life made a deep impression, which still exists in the lives of many.

When the yellow fever epidemic raged in the South her heroic nature led her to volunteer to go to the bedsides of the suffering and dying, but the abating necessity prevented her going. Things which appeared as hardships to many of her friends did not seem so to her, but rather a pleasure. She was heard to say once, "I am always glad when the Lord gives me something hard to do for Him." What a noble spirit this is! Yet how few seek it.

She offered herself as a missionary to India at the first call. Her life and preparation seemed to be waiting for the tardy call of God's

people to "go forward." Although, in quest of renewed health, compelled to return after nine years of constant service in Bilaspur, building the bungalow and superintending that mission, yet no pleasures of native country tempted her to relinquish her purpose to return and take up the work she had so reluctantly laid down. In September, 1894, she, in company with Miss Frost, sailed again for India, and is now at work in Mahoba, in Northwest Provinces.

In the early part of her missionary labors in India she had many hard things to endure, but the Lord has rewarded His faithful servants now with more comforts and less opposition.

While in America her friends tried to persuade her she could do as much good here as in India, but she persistently replied, "There are plenty who are willing to fill these places but not so many who will go to India."

I presume her hardest trial was to leave her mother, whom she had no reasonable hopes to meet again in the flesh. It was a grand lesson to us all, for her trembling mother, eighty-four years old, to give her free and glad consent for her daughter to return to her loved work so far away. It was the final farewell, as all supposed it would be, on earth, but a joyful meeting awaits them on the other shore.

Sister Mary Graybiel is held in loving esteem by all the church here. Hardly a week goes by but an earnest prayer is heard here in behalf of our loved ones in India. May the Lord bless them.

MRS. J. G. WAGGONER.

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